

MAR 05 2015

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS TO CONSIDER ALTERNATIVE
PROGRAM STRUCTURES FOR THE LICENSING OF PRIVATE TRADE,
VOCATIONAL, AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS.

1 WHEREAS, licensure of private trade, vocational, and
2 technical schools in the State of Hawaii has been administered
3 by the Department of Education since 1939, generally, and since
4 1996, specifically pursuant to Act 89, Session Laws of Hawaii
5 1996, as amended; and

6
7 WHEREAS, private trade, vocational, and technical schools
8 provide the critical training ground and curriculum for a number
9 of professional schools in areas including massage therapy,
10 healthcare training, tax preparation, maritime activities, and
11 various other trades and vocations; and

12
13 WHEREAS, a number of currently licensed private trade,
14 vocational, or technical schools in the State of Hawaii require
15 a form of state licensure in order for students to be eligible
16 for receipt of federal financial aid or to participate in other
17 types of federal educational assistance; and

18
19 WHEREAS, the Department of Education does not have the
20 current capacity or understanding of the specialized curricula
21 of the various private trade, vocational, and technical schools
22 currently under its licensing jurisdiction to effectively
23 administer the requirements of Act 89, Session Laws of Hawaii
24 1996, as amended; and

25
26 WHEREAS, a number of trades and vocations now receive state
27 licensure for business operations through the Department of
28 Commerce and Consumer Affairs; and

29
30 WHEREAS, the possible impact on existing schools and
31 students that would result from the establishment of alternative



1 licensing program structures for the various private trade,
2 vocational, and technical schools in the State requires further
3 consideration, including any potential fee increases from
4 changes to the Department of Education's long-standing licensing
5 fee structure that would result from a program restructuring;
6 and
7

8 WHEREAS, the Legislature is committed to improving the
9 licensure process for private trade, vocational, and technical
10 schools in the State of Hawaii, which may include the
11 establishment of alternative licensure structures or models;
12 now, therefore,
13

14 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth
15 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015, the
16 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of
17 Education and Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, in
18 collaboration with existing licensed private trade, vocational,
19 and technical schools in the State of Hawaii, to review the
20 State's current licensing program for private trade, vocational,
21 and technical schools established pursuant to Act 89, Session
22 Laws of Hawaii 1996, as amended, and to consider alternative
23 licensing program structures or models that are in the best
24 interest of private trade, vocational, and technical schools and
25 for students in the State of Hawaii; and
26

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Commerce and
28 Consumer Affairs and the Department of Education submit a report
29 of their findings and recommendations, including any proposed
30 legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior
31 to the convening of the Regular Session of 2016; and
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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
34 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor,
35 Superintendent of Education, Chairperson of the Board of
36 Education, and Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.
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